

MINUTES

**Durham Soil and Water Conservation District
721 Foster St.
Durham, NC 27701**

Meeting Number: 6 (District Meeting)

Date: June 6, 2016

Meeting Number: 12(for State reporting purposes)

Supervisors Present:

Talmage Layton, Chairman
Danielle Adams, Vice Chair
Ray Eurquhart, Financial Officer/Supervisor
Katie Locklier, Treasurer/Secretary
Curtis Richardson, Supervisor
David Harris, Associate Supervisor
Mark Dewitt, Associate Supervisor
Melissa Rooney, Associate Supervisor

Others Present:

Eddie Culberson, Director
Lisa Marochak, Senior Administrative officer
Jennifer Brooks, Natural Resources Coordinator
Mike Dupree, Agribusiness & Environmental Svc. Manager
Heather Dutra, Watershed Conservationist
Matthew Kinane, NRCS- District Conservationist

The regular meeting of the Durham Soil & Water Conservation District Board was held on Monday, June 6, 2016, and called to order at 5:30pm by the Chairman. The meeting was held at 721 Foster St, Durham, NC 27701.

Minutes/Financial Report– A motion was made by Ray Eurquhart to approve the minutes from the May meeting and accept the financial report. Katie Locklier seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

Old Business

A. Upper Neuse River Basin Issues Update- David Harris reported on the following:

- Preparing for upcoming year.
- UNRBA is reviewing monitoring plan & looking at analysis.
- Directors meeting will be held on June 15th 9:30am at Butner Town Hall. David Harris will be out of town and needs another supervisor to take his place. Ray Eurquhart is going to try and attend the meeting.

B. Environmental Affairs Board Update- Mark Dewitt gave an update on EAB

- **Presentation from Duke Grad students**- The students looked at where the trees are in Durham and gave their conclusions.
- **Durham's Urban Forest: Living in the Shade of Social Justice**- sent in application for continued replacement of trees.
- **Work session**- Wednesday, June 8
- No July meeting

C. Sediment & Erosion Control Plans- Jennifer Brooks reported on the following: that since the last meeting they have had 22 plans. 19 were adequate as follows: Duke university Softball Fields; Adcock; Bethesda Christian Academy- Athletic Field Improvement; Rosedaile Subdivision- Rose of Sharon Rd; Del Webb Carolina Arbors greenway Trail; Duke University-Medical Science Research Building III; ABF-Freight; Meadow Mount Stancel Drive Car Wash; Blacknall off-site parking; Davis

Park Apartments; Davis Park Apartments-Infrastructure; West Pettigrew Street Deck; Triangle Business Center-Lot 4; Lakeview Villas; Brightleaf Tract 12; Venture Center-parking lot expansion; Brightleaf Tract 1 Phase 6; Trilogy at Brier Creek; Auto Zone-Durham. There were 3 inadequate as follows: Popeye's-Durham@ Guess Road; Park Center-Infrastructure and Hansell Metal Building for no seeding plan.

D. Environmental Education – Jennifer Brooks report on the following:

- **Farm Family of the Year**- The judging for the Farm Family of the Year for the Piedmont was held on May 26. Waller Family Farm from Durham was the Area IV winner but they were not chosen as the winner for the Piedmont. Gross Farms in Lee County won for the Piedmont.
- **Teachers Workshop**- Staff will possibly hold a teachers workshop the week of July 18th.
- **Envirothon**- Associate Supervisor, David Harris would like to see more teams from Durham competing in the Envirothon competition. Melissa Rooney suggest for him to speak with the DPS Superintendent.
- **2016 Best of Both World's Conference**- Jennifer Brooks applied for staff to do a presentation on the BETC Program at the 2016 BoBW Conference. Our application was chosen, so some of the staff will be attending the BoBW Conference in Bolder, Co the end of September.
- **Bookmark contest**- Lisa Marochak reported that the bookmark contest judging (K-2) was held on May 12th and we had over 500 entries this year. Lisa presented the winning bookmark entries with a certificate and laminated bookmarks for each of the 1st place winners on May 20 & May 25 at their school.

E. Director's Report – Eddie Culberson reported on the following:

- **FY16-17 County Manager Budget Recommendations** - The County Manager presented his budget recommendations for FY16-17 to the BOCC and he is recommending the following for Soil and Water: \$30,000 for contracted services to enter data into Practice Keeper and an increase in Travel & Training. The FY16-17 budget will be approved on June 27th.
- **NJAA Update**– The attorney for NJAA, Jamie Clark has drafted an agreement and will get it to Senior County Attorney, Willie Darby and the Durham SWCD Board shortly.

F. Agricultural Cost Share Program- Jennifer Brooks reported the following:

- **No-till Drill** – Jennifer Brooks reported the following:
 - **Shed for no-till drill**- was installed this past Saturday.
 - Staff sent the draft agreement and Farm Bureau Insurance quote to the County Attorney and David English with the Durham County Risk Management. We are still waiting to hear back from Willy Darby and we have a meeting with David English the end of the month.
 - **Insurance**- Staff contacted Farm Bureau and the quote they gave us was for an Inland Marine Policy and that they cannot provide liability insurance for the no-till drill. We have tried to get other quotes but nobody so far has said they will give us liability coverage, due to the fact that the Board is a subsidiary of State Government.

G. Stream Restoration and Stormwater Projects – Eddie Culberson reported on the following:

- 1) **Southern High Stream Restoration/CWMTF Amendment**- An amendment to the CWMTF agreement 2014-402 was presented. A motion was made by Ray Eurquhart to do an amendment on the CWMTF agreement 2014-402 as stated above. Katie Locklier seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

- 2) **Southern High School Easement**- has been signed by DPS. A motion was made by Katie Locklier to enter into an agreement on the easement for the Southern High Project as presented.
 - **Payments made to CEC for the Southern High Project since last meeting**
 - 5/10/2016- made payment to CEC for \$1,330 for CWMTF grant 2014-402
 - 5/11/2016- made payment to CEC for \$6,000 for NCEEG grant DSWCD-013
 - 6/6/16 made payment to CEC for \$2,475 on CWMTF grant 2014-402
- 3) **Aaron Walker**- Submitted grant application to CWMTF for the Aaron Walker project. A walk through was done on April 20th.
- 4) **Marbrey/Jackson**- PCC submitted a grant for Marbrey/Jackson on 6,000 ft. of stream. Jennifer Brooks did a walk through on May 19th with CWMTF.
- 5) **Potential future projects**- Colony Park, Jordan High School & neighbor of Neil Frank

H. **CCAP** – Heather Dutra reported on the following:

- **FY16 319 Grant Proposals-**

Durham Soil & Water Conservation District was selected to be fully funded for the proposed *Durham County Community Conservation Assistance Program (CCAP)*, but did not receive funding for the *Unnamed Tributary to Little Creek Stream Restoration Project*. The \$100,000 for CCAP is scheduled to be available for BMP implementation January 2017 through December 2019.

- **Recent Payments-**

- a. 32-2016-557: Hunter (ISIP) for \$513 for SBS and rain garden repairs (Duke Energy).
- b. 32-2016 532: Sam for \$3,075 for mobilization for multiple stormwater BMPs (ISIP).

Board Approval

- **Contract Extensions-** A motion was made by Danielle Adams to batch and approve the following 2 contract extensions. Curtis Richardson seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
 - a. 32-2016-511: Watts Elementary PTA - requesting rain garden installation extension from June 2016 to November 1, 2016. Delayed due to the need to coordinate with DPS and Tributary Land Design & Build for additional school ground renovations.
 - b. 32-2016-513: North St HOA - requesting rain garden and structural stormwater conveyance installation extension from July 2016 to November 1, 2016. Delay due to bad weather and contractor workload.
- **Applications for Assistance-** A motion was made by Curtis Richardson to batch and approve the following 7 Application for Assistance. Danielle Adams seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
 - a. 32-2016-560: Castoe for streambank stabilization, Third Fork Creek, Jordan, ranking score 195.
 - b. 32-2016-561: Blaylock for a cistern, New Hope Creek, Jordan, ranking score 140.
 - c. 32-2016-562: Burch for a grassed swale and rain garden, Third Fork Creek, Jordan, ranking score 165.
 - d. 32-2016-563: McAskill for streambank stabilization, Little Lick Creek, Neuse, ranking score 175.
 - e. 32-2016-564: Burkhalter for impervious conversion, Crooked Creek, Jordan, ranking score 165.
 - f. 32-2016-565: NC School of Science and Math (NCSSM) for cistern, Ellerbe Creek, Neuse, ranking score 165.
 - g. 32-2016-566: Tobien for streambank stabilization, Third Fork Creek, Jordan, ranking score 190.

- **Contracts (1)**
32-2016-502: Bucala for \$919 in supplemental funds for changes to engineered plunge pool designs per Division, Third Fork Creek, Jordan, ranking score 170 (Duke Energy). A motion was made by Danielle Adams to approve the contract as presented. Katie Locklier seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
- **Request for Payment-** 32-2016-502 for Bucala in the amount of \$4,639. This is the total amount including original \$3,720 and (tentative) \$919 in supplemental funds. A motion was made by Danielle Adams to approve the RFP as presented. Katie Locklier seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
- **Remaining Funds-** \$15,032 (EPA 319) and \$32,521 (Duke Energy)

I. Administrative Report – Lisa Marochak reported on the following;

- a. Pond Clinic** – Thanked David Harris and the Soil and Water staff for helping with the Pond Clinic that was held on May 7th at Blackwood Farm Park in Hillsborough.
- Associate Supervisor, David Harris commended the staff for putting together a great program at the Pond Clinic.
- b. Sales and use tax form-** Received the Sales and Use Tax ID back from the NC Dept. of Revenue.
- c. SENACD Meeting-** Will be held July 31-August 7 at Harrah’s Cherokee Resort. Staff will not be attending the meeting.
- d. Internal Audit-** Scheduled for June 28th at 4pm.
- e. Area IV Fall Planning Committee-** met prior to the board meeting to discuss possible location, food and agenda ideas. Lisa Marochak will send out a draft agenda to the committee.

J. Durham Farmland Protection- Mike Dupree reported on the following:

Farmland Board

- **Farmland Board meeting-** Will be held on June 23rd at 8am. The board meets at 721 Foster Street in the 2nd floor conference room.

Ag Development

TLG conference next week on the 15th. We are expecting 100 people in attendance. The presentation was given to the People’s Alliance Environmental Committee on May 17th at Southern High to 39 people and last week to the 16 stormwater managers from across the state.

Grant updates

- **UL award-**A Skype interview was held on May 25th at 10:00 am. Three questions were asked. How many people served? How many hours do students participate? Also what would you do with a one time award? Finalist maybe asked to send additional information and are to be notified this month.
- **Smith Richardson Foundation-**No official response. We were to hear by May 15th. I sent a follow up on the June 2nd and I haven’t had a response to the June 2 email.
- **Grants to pursue this month** NACD technical assistance grant up to \$50,000 for Urban Ag technical assistance
 - **Board letter of support for the grant-** other partners, Farmer Food Share, The Durham Farm & Food Network and Interfaith Food Shuttle. A motion was made by Danielle Adams for the Board to write a letter of support for the NACD technical assistance grant. Curtis Richardson seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

BETC Program

- Lowe's Grove Middle School was recently named STEM School of the Year by US 2020. Three schools were named finalist, (Envision Science Academy, Lowe's Grove Middle School, and Wake STEM Early College High School). The winner was announced at a ceremony in Research Triangle Park. Thank you for being a supporter of Lowe's Grove Middle School!
- BETC Summer Intern Program- currently 17 students (Southern 7, 5 from Jordan, 5 from Northern)

The teachers that will receive extended employment will include Amy Jenkins and Len. Curington from Southern , Ag Teacher Michelle Joyner Ritchie from Jordan, the Ag teacher from LGMS John Ware & one of the Ag teachers from Northern. These teachers will receive extended pay from DPS, Rick Sheldahl has approved the funding. They will be installing rain gardens at Jordan, Lowe's Grove, Morehead Montessori and EK Powe Elementary this summer. Seven rain gardens two critical area planting projects.

Local Food Purchasing Program

- There was a meeting on May 23rd at the Bull City Cool to discuss the Durham County Detention facility and the possibility of buying local food products from Durham Farmers. The Sheriff's office, Larry Ricks, Farmers Food Share, Reinvestment Partners and Drew Cummings with the county Managers office were present. The next meeting is scheduled for 2pm on June 23, at Bull City Cool. Soil & Water Conservation staff will investigate how and how well the Cabarrus County 10% local food purchasing requirement is working.

K. NRCS – Matthew Kinane reported on the following:

1. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS:

a. ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVES PROGRAM (EQIP):

- i. It is time for district to host the Local Work Group Meeting. Since the Durham SWCD has hosted several farmers (stakeholders) meetings during the winter and other various small group meetings during the past year, my recommendation is for the Durham SWCD to hold the Local Work group meeting during either your July or August 2016 board meeting. The SWCD has already adopted a strategy plan for FY-2017 and EQIP is a component of the strategy plan.
- ii. As mentioned at previous board meetings, for FY-2016, the Durham Delivery Point Office received 6 eligible applications in four funding pools (Seasonal High Tunnel System (3); Forestry (1); Organic Transition (1); and Irrigation Efficiency- Micro irrigation (1)). The estimated funding request exceeds \$47,447 for these six applications.
- iii. As of Friday May 27, 2016, Durham County has two applications that have been approved. One has been funded and the other is in process to be funded. To date, these two applications represent the following for Durham County:
 \$21,200.00 of federal financial assistance
 38 acres under contract
 2 applications funded (represents 33% of applications going to contracts)
 2 funding pools represented (Forestry and Irrigation Efficiency- Micro irrigation)
- iv. Currently, the Durham Delivery Point Office has 4 applications representing \$25,200.00 of unfunded financial assistance requests. These applications cover requests in two funding pools (Seasonal High Tunnel, and Organic Transition).

b. AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION EASEMENT PROGRAM (ACEP): There have been no new updates regarding the status of the four submitted applications for FY-2016.

2. CONSERVATION COMPLIANCE REVIEWS:

- a. The Field Office is preparing for the FY-2016 Food Security Act (FSA) Conservation Compliance Reviews. There is one Tract in Durham County on the Random Tract list, Tract 604. All persons associated with the tract will be notified of the upcoming review. The field review will be scheduled for late June 2016.

3. TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:

Conservation Planning:

- a. **June 08, 2016 – Camp Cherokee, Yanceyville, NC - Foresters for the Birds** - CFEs available. Registration is free. Lunch is provided. Special thanks to Camp Cherokee and NC Forest Service. This training is available for all NRCS employees, district technical employees who are involved with the planning process are welcome and encouraged to attend.
- b. **June 22-23, 2016 – Durham SWCD Office** – a two-day Cultural Resources Training will be held in Durham County. This training involves both classroom and field exercises. Jim Errante, NRCS Columbia SC State Office employee, will be the instructor for this training. All employees who are involved with the conservation planning process are encouraged to attend. This training is for employees who have not completed the Cultural Resources Training.

New Business:

- A. 2016-2017 Budget** – a motion was made by Danielle Adams to approve the 2016-2017 Durham SWCD Budget as presented. Curtis Richardson seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
- B. July and September meeting dates-** The July & September meeting fall on holidays so they will be moved to July 11th and September 12.

Adjourn: The Chairman adjourned at 6:50pm

Next Meeting: Monday, July 11, 2016 at 5:30pm - 721 Foster St Durham, NC 27701

Talmage Layton
Chairman

Lisa Marochak
Senior Administrative Officer

Approval date